

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 IO-10 OIC-02 CU-02 SAJ-01 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4408

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 06293

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, BE

SUBJECT: TINDEMANS VIEWS ON CSCE

REF: OLSEN-SHIRLEY TELCON JULY 9

1. PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS HAS VERY LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CSCE EXERCISE. HE WILL ATTEND STAGE III, IF IT MATERIALIZES, AND GO STOICALLY THROUGH THE PACES. BUT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL HAVE ADDED MUCH TO EITHER SECURITY OR COOPERATION IN EUROPE. AND HE FEARS THAT IN THE LONG RUN IT MAY HAVE DEBILITATING EFFECT ON THE MOVEMENT TOWARD WESTERN EUROPEAN UNITY, WHICH IS HIS PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVE AND INTEREST.

2. TINDEMANS MOSCOW VISIT IN JUNE REINFORCED HIS ALREADY JAUNDICED VIEW OF EAST-WEST DETENTE, ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS WHO ADVISE HIM ON SOVIET AND EAST EUROPE AFFAIRS. IN HIS TALKS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS HE TRIED TO ASSERT AT LEAST A MORAL LINK BETWEEN A "SUCCESSFUL" CSCE CONCLUSION AND SOME PROGRESS ON MBFR TALKS. HE WAS NOT ONLY REBUFFED BUT HAD TO SUFFER A SOVIET ATTEMPT TO STAMPEDE BELGIANS INTO UNQUALIFIED ENDORSEMENT OF A JULY STAGE III.

3. A VETERAN BELGIAN PROFESSIONAL OVER-SIMPLIFIED THE SITUATION THUS: "(FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER) HARMEL PUT
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BELGIUM IN THE DETENTE CAMP. HE BELIEVED IN THE HARMEL REPORT.

TINDEMANS DOES NOT." FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

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